

[Translation]

Interest Charged by Banks

2973. SHRIDILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government, have received complaints from borrowers against nationalised, cooperative and other banks in regard to charging of high percentage of interest rates more than fixed by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that several representations/complaints have been received by them from various associations, etc. regarding hike in lending rate and also charging of arbitrary interest by banks in respect of advances over Rs. 2 lakhs. RBI advised Banks on February 18, 1992 that while they are free to determine the actual lending rates, it is necessary to adopt an objective and rational criteria for deciding the range of rate between the minimum lending rate as fixed by the RBI and the actual rates charged to different borrowers. With effect from 2nd March, 1992 the lending rate on credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been reduced by one

percentage point, from 20% (minium) to 19% (minimum) and the banks have already been advised to reduce the rates for all borrowers under this category by a minimum of one percentage point over the rates charged from such borrowers before 2nd March, 1992.

[English]

Seizure of Narcotic Drugs

2974. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various agencies in the country and particularly in Rajasthan during each of the last three calendar years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation had seized a large quantity of opium in Rajasthan in December, 1991;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons apprehended in this regard and the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various enforcement agencies in the Country and in Rajasthan during the last three years are as given below:

Quantity seized in kgs.

Sl. No.	Name of the Drug	1989		1990		1991 (Provisional)	
		All over Country	Rajasthan	All over Country	Rajasthan	All over Country	Rajasthan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Opium	4855	887	2114	139	1977	634